

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Kenneth. Brasel et al.

Docket No.:

2836-A

08/725,540

Art Unit:

1816

Filed:

October 3, 1996

Examiner:

E. Rabin

For:

DENDRITIC CELL STIMULATORY FACTOR

ELECTION OF INVENTION

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action date June 26, 1997 in connection with the above referenced application, please consider the following election of invention.

The Restriction of Claims

The United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") believes that there exist nine separately patentable inventions within the 19 claims as originally filed. The USPTO has stated that the Groups of invention are as follows:

Group I, claims 1-5, drawn to a method of enhancing an immune response to treat infectious disease.

Group II, claims 1, 2, 6 and 7, drawn to a method of enhancing an immune response to treat cancer.

Group III, claims 1 and 18, drawn to a method of inducing tolerance.

Group IV, claims 8-11, drawn to a population of antigen-pulsed dendritic cells.

Group V, claims 12-14, drawn to a method of differentiating hematopoietic cells.

Group VI, claim 15, drawn to a method of preparing antigen-specific T cells.

Group VII, claim 16, drawn to a method of enhancing vaccination.

Group VIII, claim 17, drawn to a vaccine adjuvant.

Group IX, claim 19, drawn to cell expansion media.

First, the USPTO alleges that Groups IV and VI are related as product and process of use. Instead of explaining how they are so related, the USPTO simply reitterates a portion of MPEP §806.05(h). The USPTO also stated that Groups VIII and VII are related as product and process of use, again only citing the MPEP without further explanation. Further, the